

REMARKS

A. Request for Reconsideration

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the seven Terminal Disclaimers and the following remarks.

B. Claim Status

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-23 are presented for further prosecution. Claim amendments have not been made at this time.

C. The Office Action

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 15-17, 19, 20 and 23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of Hirabayash (U.S. 2004/0219459). Claims 1, 3, 7, 9-12, 15, 17, 18, 21 and 22 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 8-11 and 15 of Kuroki '403 (U.S. 2005/0048403). Claims 1, 3, 7-15, 17, 18 and 21-23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-

13 and 16-18 of Ohta (U.S.2004/0191691). Claims 1, 3, 9-11, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2 and 5-7 of Kuroki '154 (U.S. 2004/0157154). Claims 1, 3, 8-11, 13-15, 17, 18, 22 and 23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of Takamuki (U.S. 2004/0157153). Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 15, 17, 18, 21 and 23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 and 8-11 of Matsumura '248 (U.S. 2005/0233248). Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 15, 17, 18, 21 and 23 had been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 6 and 7 of Matsumura '866 (U.S. 2005/0053866).

Applicants have enclosed seven Terminal Disclaimers to overcome the double patenting rejections. PTO 2038 is enclosed for the Terminal Disclaimer fees.

D. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing and the enclosed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are

hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl: Seven Terminal Disclaimers
PTO 2038 for \$910.00